I CLAIM:

1. A method employable in a wireless communication network for managing, among plural communication stations in a group of such stations, bandwidth-sharing of available, unused bandwidth, said method comprising

establishing a pattern of periodic beacon transmissions having a defined first time spacing between time-next-adjacent transmissions, designed to convey bandwidth-availability (transmission-budget) announcements to stations in the group,

from within this pattern, choosing a sub-pattern of selected, periodic beacon transmissions having a defined second time spacing between time-next-adjacent, chosen sub-pattern transmissions, which second time spacing encompasses a predetermined number of the beacon transmissions having the mentioned first time spacing, and

utilizing, then, only the selected beacon transmissions in this sub-pattern to convey the announcements of any new (changed) transmission-budget information.

2. The method of claim 1, wherein, in accordance with said utilizing step, only beacons in the chosen sub-pattern of transmissions convey any transmission-budget information.

3. The method of claim 1, wherein the non-chosen beacon transmissions convey only a repetition of the same transmission-budget information which was conveyed by the last, immediate, prior, chosen beacon transmission.

4. Apparatus employable in a wireless communication network for managing, among plural communication stations in a group of such stations, bandwidth-sharing of available, unused bandwidth, said apparatus comprising

an access point station designed as such from within such a group to be operable to establish a pattern of periodic beacon transmissions having a defined first time spacing between time-next-adjacent transmissions, and constructed to convey bandwidth-availability (transmission-budget) announcements to stations in the group, and

behavior structure provided within each of such stations, operable, with respect to and from within the mentioned pattern of beacon transmissions, (a) to choose a sub-pattern of selected, periodic beacon transmissions having a defined second time spacing between time-next-adjacent, chosen sub-pattern transmissions, which second time spacing encompasses a predetermined number of the beacon transmissions having the mentioned first time spacing, and (b) to effect utilization, then, of only the selected beacon transmissions in this sub-pattern to convey the announcements of any new (changed) transmission-budget information